



Figure 8. Map showing location of all tripod moorings (over-lapping red triangles) at LT-A in western Massachusetts Bay from 1989-2005. The yellow square is the location of the U.S. Coast Guard B buoy. The locations are plotted on a map of shaded-relief bathymetry colored by backscatter intensity (Butman and others, 2003; Butman and others, 2007b). Backscatter intensity is a measure of surface sediment texture and bottom roughness. Generally, high backscatter intensity (shown as red and yellow) is associated with rock outcrops, gravel, and coarse-grained sediment; medium backscatter intensity (green) is associated with sandy sediments; and low backscatter intensity (shown as blue) indicates finer-grained sediments. The tripods are located in an area of moderate to high backscatter intensity in about 30 m water depth on the southern flank of a ridge that runs approximately northwest-southeast. The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) ocean outfall appears as two parallel rows (about 2 km long) of individual mounds of material; the mounds are rock materials discarded on the sea floor from the holes drilled for the risers that extend to the outfall tunnel about 76 m below. The diffuser heads, about 3 m high and 4 m in diameter and located between the rows, are not resolved in this image. For a map of a larger area around the mooring site, see Butman and others (2003).